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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/017,798	12/12/2001	Valentin Kramer	31567.3	9144
5251	7590	02/11/2005	EXAMINER	
SHOOK, HARDY & BACON LLP 2555 GRAND BLVD KANSAS CITY, MO 64108			CHANG, VICTOR S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1771	

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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10/017,798

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

021005

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

see attached NOTE.

NOTE

1. The reply filed on 1/3/2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

It is noted that Applicants have cancelled all the original claims, and submitted a new set of claims. However, the new claims appear to be directed to an invention which is different in scope of the cancelled claims. Specifically, the cancelled claim 1 recites "An article of expanded PTFE exhibiting a fibril and node structure comprising two distinct pore size distribution ...", whereas the newly submitted claim 19 recites "An expanded PTFE article comprising: a first plurality of fibrils interconnecting a first node with a second node ... a third node ... smaller than said first and second nodes; a second plurality of fibrils attaching said third node ...". The Examiner notes that clearly new claim 19 lacks any recitation of "distinct pore size distribution", and as such different in scope from the cancelled claim 1. Additionally, it is noted that the new claims are new matter, because Applicants fail to point out any support, nor does the Examiner find any express or inherent support in the specification. Applicants are required to either provide the supports for structural relations and phrases (such as "a first plurality of fibrils", "first node", "second node", "third node", etc.), or cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office action. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply

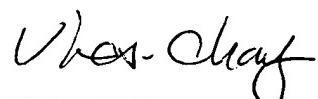
Art Unit: 1771

the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor S Chang whose telephone number is 571-272-1474. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel H Morris can be reached on 571-272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Victor S Chang
Examiner
Art Unit 1771

2/10/2004